

# CHRISTIAN HOME IN AN UNCHRISTIAN WORLD

by

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## Chapter 1

### THE CHRISTIAN HOME IN A NON-CHRISTIAN WORLD

"AMERICA: Weighed and Found Wanting"

As goes the home, so goes the nation.  
As goes the marriage, so goes the home.  
As goes the individual, so goes the marriage.  
As goes the marriage, so goes the home.

Today the distinctive Christian home is passing out of existence by default. It takes time to make a house a home, and we do not have the time, or better, we do not TAKE the time that is necessary to establish a Christian home.

You do not have a Christian home simply because everyone in the home is a Christian -- and this is where so many have failed to understand and establish a truly Christian home and family.

The Lord has burdened my heart to speak about the Christian home and marriage in a series of ten messages. If anyone will attend to all ten messages and will SEEK to be instructed by the Word of GOD, he cannot be the same at the conclusion as he was in the beginning. Your home will be different because you will be different and because your marriage will be different.

What made this nation great was the Christian home. What is making this nation bankrupt today, and corrupt within is the breakdown of the home, and particularly the Christian home. If there is to be any checking of this nation's scheduled appointment with disaster, it must be because of a resurgence of the Christian home due to a true uniting of the marriage in harmony by each partner's mutual understanding of the other and their needs, and by proper adjustments in problem areas.

**Let us take this step-by-step.**

GOD has established four divine institutions for the governing and well-being of all mankind regardless of whether they are believers in Him or unbelievers, whether they are saved or

unsaved. Salvation has nothing to do with these institutions the Lord has established. It is essential for us to understand these four divine institutions.

### **1. GOD established volition, or free will of man:**

**"And the LORD God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it. And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die" (Genesis 2:15-17)**

Man has a will that he may choose for himself the right way or the wrong way. Whatever way man chooses, he is responsible for his choice and is held accountable by His MAKER.

Any system of doctrine that denies human volition and the corresponding responsibility and accountability of man, is SATANIC. GOD, in all of His sovereignty, NEVER violates man's free will. Moreover, He operates to have men choose the right and forsake the wrong.

### **2. GOD established marriage:**

**"And the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept: and he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof; And the rib, which the LORD God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man. And Adam said, This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man. Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh. And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed" (Genesis 2:21-25)**

The marriage union was established before the fall of man, and was in no way responsible for the fall as is so erroneously believed and taught by some. In the marriage bond, there were to be ONE man and ONE woman, and these two alone were to be joined together and so become one flesh.

Marriage is honorable in all, but anyone who will come in as a third party and break this unit that GOD has established will have to deal with GOD Himself, for GOD will judge them; and anyone who will allow a third party to come in will also be judged (Hebrews 13:4). \*\*\*However, even as our REDEEMER once dealt with an adulteress, caught in the very act of violating her home, He said ". . . Neither do I condemn thee: go, and sin no more" (John 8:11). Get up and start again! Your home can be saved!

### **3. GOD established the family.**

Please read Genesis chapters three and four.

This is GOD's divine method for the training and upbringing of children for their preparation for life. Children are to be reared in the family unit -- NOT SOMEBODY ELSE's family unit, the individual's family unit that established the marriage.

#### **4. GOD established human government.**

Please read Genesis chapter nine.

Following the flood, GOD instituted human government as a controlling influence over vice and corruption in society. The highest power of human government is the taking of a man's life when he has taken the life of another man. This power of government necessitates and establishes all lesser powers for controlling lawlessness.

**The book of Proverbs has been identified as "Laws from Heaven for life on earth."**

It is true for Proverbs as it is for all the rest of the books of Scripture: its instructions are eternally valid; its message is still vital; its counsel is still sound. It is a part of "**all Scripture**" (II Timothy 16-17) that is to instruct and correct us, and prepare us for all good works.

Notice some examples of what it says concerning:

##### **1. Volition:**

**"The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction. My son, hear the instruction of thy father, and forsake not the law of thy mother: For they shall be an ornament of grace unto thy head, and chains about thy neck. My son, if sinners entice thee, consent thou not"** (Proverbs 1:7-10)

##### **2. Marriage:**

Negatively: **"To keep thee from the evil woman, from the flattery of the tongue of a strange woman. Lust not after her beauty in thine heart; neither let her take thee with her eyelids. For by means of a whorish woman a man is brought to a piece of bread: and the adulteress will hunt for the precious life. Can a man take fire in his bosom, and his clothes not be burned? Can one go upon hot coals, and his feet not be burned? So he that goeth in to his neighbours wife; whosoever toucheth her shall not be innocent. Men do not despise a thief, if he steal to satisfy his soul when he is hungry; But if he be found, he shall restore sevenfold; he shall give all the substance of his house. But whoso committeth adultery with a woman lacketh understanding: he that doeth it destroyeth his own soul. A wound and dishonour shall he get; and his reproach shall not be wiped away. For jealousy is the rage of a man: therefore he will not spare in the day of vengeance. He will not regard any ransom; neither will he rest content, though thou givest many gifts"** (Proverbs 6:24-35).

Positively: **"Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing, and obtaineth favour of the LORD"** (Proverbs 18:22)

##### **3. Family:**

**"He that spareth his rod hateth his son: but he that loveth him chasteneth him betimes"** (Proverbs 13:24)

**"Chasten thy son while there is hope, and let not thy soul spare for his crying"** (Proverbs

19:18)

**"Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it"** (Proverbs 22:6)

**"Foolishness is bound in the heart of a child; but the rod of correction shall drive it far from him"** (Proverbs 22:15).

#### **4. Government:**

**"Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people. The kings favour is toward a wise servant: but his wrath is against him that causeth shame"** (Proverbs 14:34-35).

I would remind you once again that these divine institutions are operative today for all men everywhere, and they have nothing to do whatever with a person being saved or unsaved.

This is GOD's relationship to men by virtue of His being the CREATOR of man and by men being subject ultimately to GOD. All men everywhere have and keep these institutions except where they have been deliberately suppressed. Anyone or any system that interferes with these divine institutions will have to answer ultimately to GOD Himself.

Now **"because sentence against an evil work is not executed speedily"** by GOD, **"there the heart of the sons of men is fully set in them to do evil"** (Ecclesiastes 8:11). They think they are sinning and getting by with it: **"His ways are always grievous; thy judgments are far above out of his sight: as for all his enemies, he puffeth at them. He hath said in his heart, I shall not be moved: for I shall never be in adversity. . . . He hath said in his heart, God hath forgotten: he hideth his face; he will never see it. . . . Wherefore doth the wicked contemn God? he hath said in his heart, Thou wilt not require it"** (Psalm 10:5-6, 11, 13). BUT THEY ARE NOT.

I want you to realize before we proceed that communism, which is anti-god and subject to the will, word or purpose of GOD in any form, has sought to destroy each of these four divine institutions which GOD HAS ESTABLISHED FOR MANKIND.

#### **1. Volition or free will:**

Through brain-washing, communism has sought to destroy a man's will so that he has no will at all but wills to do what is told him. In the doctrine of communism/socialism/humanism, man has no soul, and a man's will is not to be subject to the man whatever, but to the state. If he annihilates an entire population because this is the will of the state, this is all that matters. No one is to express their will, but only the will of the state. If the will of the state today is that Stalin is a hero, Stalin is a hero. If the will of the state tomorrow is that Stalin is a traitor, then this is what he is.

#### **2. Marriage:**

Marriage, in communistic/humanist doctrine, is a product of the bourgeoisie and in true communism there will be no such thing as marriage. It will be totally free love practiced by

everyone. Communistic China has already tried this on a massive scale, but it was a miserable failure, and was abandoned for this time.

### **3. Family:**

Under a true system of communism, children are for the state and are to be raised by the state. This is what is taking place today in Cuba. Children are taken away from the parents at a very early age and are raised by the state in order to teach them communism and not have them learn -- according to the communists -- wrong things.

### **4. Government:**

While the system of communism in its present state is a control by a very powerful governmental authority, when the true state of communism is supposedly reached there will be no government at all. At that time society will be redeemed, not by the blood of CHRIST, but by the devil's doctrine of demons.

This will show you something of how Satan will fight against GOD and His word and program. Satan wants to destroy governmental authority that will subdue lawlessness. All sin is lawlessness against GOD, and Satan wants man to be lawless even as he is lawless against the Word, will and purposes of GOD.

In order to accomplish lawlessness on a world scale and to set up over the world "the lawless one," Satan must destroy the family unit and in particular the Christian family unit.

He has many tricks to accomplish this from the believer working in the church so much that he doesn't have time for his own family, to the person not serving the Lord at all and so the child learns that serving the Lord is a waste of time. As the parents drift from the Lord and the Word, so do they drift from Christian principles and standards and from the instruction that is so vitally needed to keep their lives true to the Word and to the Lord.

Today the divorce rate among Christians is appalling, to say nothing of the divorce rate among unbelievers; and many Christians are "convinced" that divorce is GOD's will for them. Divorce is never GOD's perfect will.

You can see that the whole key to Satan's attack upon marriage and the home is ultimately upon the individual. Satan wants the person to exercise his volition AGAINST the volition of GOD and the Word of GOD. He will seek to have us JUSTIFY our actions and RATIONALIZE that what we are doing is right, when in reality it is wrong.

So today we see lawlessness in the nation, in the family, in the marriage bond simply because lawlessness is in the heart of man.

The nation is destroyed because of the man. The nation will be saved only because of the man. Paul never set out to change Rome even though Rome needed changing. He set out to preach the Gospel of the Lord JESUS CHRIST, and when men found CHRIST and were changed in nature through the new birth, THEY CHANGED ROME.

Human government can be no better than the family units which make it up.  
The family is not better than the unity of the marriage that produced it.  
The marriage is no better than the volition of the people who are united together.  
A happy marriage comes to pass when two people marry who are well adjusted individuals.

"Success in marriage consists not only in finding the right mate, but also in being the right mate."

The importance, there, of a being well adjusted, God-fearing individual who walk in the ways of the Lord may be clearly seen. But how do you have people become well adjusted, mature, God-fearing people?

### **BY RAISING THEM THAT WAY IN THE HOME THAT IS CHRISTIAN.**

Bad homes produce bad people. Then these bad people produce worse homes that produce worse people. These worse people have rotten homes that produce rotten people, and so on and on it goes. This whole thing doubles back on itself, either for good or for evil, depending upon the state of the home.

The way to have good marriages that have good families and that produce good government is to bring children up in the fear and admonition of the Lord in Christian homes. In this way they, by the exercise of their own volition for the right, will choose the Lord and the way of righteousness.

For three or four generations [now five or six] we in America have been neglecting the distinctive Christian home where there is love and expression of love by both the parents and the children; where there is a daily Bible reading and prayer held together as a family unit.

\*\*\* **BBB:** The problem, I fear, in our generation of weak-Christians, is that too many of GOD's people are merely looking for a band-aid to place over their troubles - rather than to submit to the radical operation of "choosing this day whom ye will serve." This study does not present any simple answers - in some case, much of it will not be pleasing to the ear or palatable to the taste. Yet, presented herein is GOD's chemo-therapy for the cancer that is eating up our homes. As you continue on in this study, I would ask that you memorize this verse and perhaps use it as a goal to be achieved. It is possible, as all things are possible, with GOD.

**"Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are his. And, Let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity"** (II Timothy 2:19)

This verse goes on to teach a most important truth for us that name the name of CHRIST, but I only ask that you meditate on verse 19 unless the Lord encourages you with the rest: **"But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and of silver, but also of wood and of earth; and some to honour, and some to dishonour. If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified, and meet for the masters use, and prepared unto every good work"** (vss. 20-21)

"Choose ye this day whom ye will serve." Yes, it is a choice. But did you know that you have already made a choice? But as Dr. Bob Jones Sr. used to tell his students, "It is never to late to do right!"

Having neglected the home for things, we in America have reaped the results. We have invested in homes and furnishings, rather than character and conduct in the lives of our children.

We are a people given to pleasure. We have turned Sunday from the Lord's day to man's day, and changed our holy days into holidays. We spend eight times more hours at movies than at Sunday School, and only one out of twelve in our land ever attends church regularly. We have become lovers of pleasure more than lovers of GOD. We have substituted for the wheat of godly reverence, the chaff of sinful, worldly pleasures.

Moreover, we are a people given to drink. Nearly nine billion dollars were spent for liquor in the United States last year, according to the United States Department of Commerce report. The Veterans Administration Bulletin informs us that we are a nation with three-quarter million alcoholics and two and one-quarter million excessive drinkers. Wage losses due to excessive drinking alone approach one-half trillion dollars annually beside the dollars spent for crime, accidents, and medical care. United States citizens spend more money for liquor every 38 hours than is given to evangelize the world in a year.

Nor can we overlook that we are a nation given to crime. A judge recently said of ten million arrests in the United States, eighty-five percent of them were under twenty years of age. J. Edgar Hoover reported that our nation harbors three and a half times as many criminals as college students. Furthermore, he states that a major crime is committed in America every twenty-two seconds. Nearly twenty-two million major crimes a year are costing taxpayers \$29,000 a minute; \$1,800,000 every hour. Sixteen billion dollars is the cost annually of crime in the most highly "civilized," cultured nation on earth.

\*\*\* Do you know where and with whom your babies are spending their leisure time?

But above all, we have become a nation given to lust.

Under the guise of the Freudian psychology that self-restraint is dangerous and that one must not repress his base passions or else he stands in danger of becoming seriously afflicted with a neuroses that borders on insanity, we are reaping a generation wherein many have been flung into the abyss of moral degeneracy and depravity.

J. Edgar Hoover has reported that fifteen million sex magazines are printed monthly and are read by teenagers [\*\*\* **IN 2004 the most depraved scenes of sexual perversion are available with the click of a mouse - PARENTS: Do you know what computer waves your youngsters are surfing? There are ways (and programs) to find out!\*\*\***]; that there are more barmaids in America than college girls; and that one million illegitimate babies are born annually [this was before the day that it was legal to wholesale slaughter and murder millions of unwanted babies at the decision of a nine-man Supreme Court in 1973 - the stroke of a pen by a miniscule minority of men turned the tide of GOD's wrath upon our nation \*\*\*].

He further says, "This country is in deadly peril . . . A creeping rot of moral disintegration is eating into our nation. I am not easily shocked nor easily alarmed. But today, like thousands of others, I am most shocked and alarmed. The arrests of teen-age boys and girls are staggering and some of the crimes youngsters commit are unspeakable."

[\*\*\* For an update of what is happening today, you might ask our resident parole officer, Y'Israel, who can share with you unbelievable acts of violence by some of the youngest members of our society \*\*\*]

**America is a great nation, but we have lost our sense of values.**

**We have built many houses, but failed to build true homes;**

**We have more money, but less real wealth;**

**More laws, but less order;**

**More knowledge, but less real wisdom;**

**More things, but less thanksgiving;**

**More comfort, but less contentment ( \*\*\* Godliness with contentment is still great gain)**

**We have more songs published than any other nation, but little singing in the heart.**

**We have become salt that has lost its savor.**

**We know more about breeding cattle and raising hogs than we do about raising children for the kingdom of GOD.**

**We spend hours to prepare a balanced diet for our bodies only to neglect the feeding of our souls.**

**[\*\*\* We spend more times shopping for a pair of shoes than we do in choosing a life's mate.**

**And we are wondering why America is in the shape it is today. \*\*\* ]**

We have built a 200 inch telescope to pierce yet further into the heavens, but still haven't found GOD. Our electron microscope has searched into the depths of creation, yet we have failed to notice the CREATOR. We build jets to crack the sound barrier, but fail to comprehend the sin barrier. We take by faith the splitting of an atom that we cannot see, but reject faith in a living GOD whose handiwork we see all around us. We devise a bomb to annihilate a city, yet fail to understand how to save our own souls. We bury three-fourths of the world's gold, only to have our own economy become cankered. We have Christian who have forgotten that there will one day be a judgment of our works.

Oh, let the rocks cry out from past civilizations and warn us of impending judgment. Let us listen



to Sodom and Gomorrah as they cry out to us and hear what Tyre and Sidon have to say. Our nation has forgotten, in its concern with the left and right, that there is an above and below. We have forgotten the exhortation: "**Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people.**"

The words of President Woodrow Wilson are just as pertinent today as when he spoke them and said: "Our civilization cannot survive materially unless it be redeemed spiritually."

We, as a nation, stand today on the threshold of eternity. It is no longer CHRIST or chaos; it is no longer revival or removal. It is now removal and judgment. America has passed the point of no return. As one person has expressed it: "If GOD does not judge America, He will have to apologize to Sodom and Gomorrah." The GOD of America is no longer the GOD her forefathers served; it is now the gods of pleasure and drink, of crime and lust.

What should our attitude and action be in such an hour as we live in world history? Regardless of how dark the hour, the Lord has called us to "**shine as lights in the world**" being blameless and harmless, the sons of GOD, without rebuke living in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation.

Even though others are given to sinful pleasures and lust, we are commanded "**that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world; looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ**" (Titus. 2:12-13).

It doesn't make any difference what others do, we are to live righteously; we are to serve the Lord; we are to train our families to love Him and live for Him.

NOTHING, NOTHING is more important than this. Noah won his own family even though he did not win the world. May, by the grace of GOD, we live such lives that we will win our own families that know us best.

If judgment will be spared our nation for this generation, it will be spared because we who are believers are the salt of the earth, and because there were ten righteous in the city.

All that we have spoken about ultimately comes down to an individual decision. You personally must decide by an act of your will what you will do.

Joshua said in his day: "**And if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell; but as for me and my house, WE WILL SERVE THE LORD.**"

Now we today are making a decision also. Some are saying by their actions, it doesn't pay to serve the Lord and live by His Word; therefore, we have chosen different gods as the T.V. on Sundays, and the mountain cottage where we can get away and forget about GOD and our obligation to Him and His house. Others want nothing to do with the GOD of righteousness and holiness that judges sin, but have chosen the god of free love and lust, and drink and crime.

But the most terrible state of all are those who are in the churches and are neither hot nor cold, but merely lukewarm: **"I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot. So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth. Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked: I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see. As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent"** (Revelation 3:15-19).

They love the Lord a little, but they love the world and the things of the world a lot more. They counsel their children not to become too involved or serious about serving the Lord. They are not only lukewarm themselves, but they teach their children to be lukewarm and attend church sometimes, but not when other things come up. Self always comes before the Lord and never is self-sacrifice involved. If anything is denied, it is the Lord. If anyone has to suffer, it is the Lord and His work.

They want to retain the Christian principles, but not the obligation and responsibility that goes with them. Their children have thrown away not simply the responsibility, but the principles themselves -- and why not? The children are at least consistent. They know that which cost nothing is worth nothing.

So the Lord's invitation is not ultimately to the nation, nor to the church, nor to the family, **BUT TO THE INDIVIDUAL.**

Revelation 3:20 still says, **"Behold I stand at the door, and knock; if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me."**

There must be individual decisions of those who want JESUS CHRIST in their heart and life. You cannot have a Christian home without first being a Christian. This is the very first step.

It is not a message today: "There is no room in the inn."

It is a message there is no room in His church for Him who died for it, and, all too often, there is no room in the Christian family for the Lord JESUS CHRIST.

What about your heart?

What about your home?

If you were to get a telegram that JESUS CHRIST would be coming to your house in fifteen minutes - would that be enough time to hide the things that you would not want Him to see?

\*\*\* I still remember the first time I ever met with a Bible-believing Pastor and the group of godly men of the Mountain View Bible Baptist Church in Balibago, Philippines. He was a missionary and had established a wonderful work for GOD. It was under Pastor Howard Quinlan

that I received my first exposure to Bible preaching. Believe me, that man could skin a congregation with the Word of GOD - and he could love his people like a father.

It was on a Thursday night as I recall, and it was just after my wife's visiting the church for the first time the previous Sunday. I was very distrustful of churches in general, owing to my recent experience with Mormonism - and was not thrilled about going back to a church - but within moments I knew that GOD was in that place.

The pastor asked the men this very simple, yet most profound question. How do you spell love for your family? He asked me - and I chose to impress him with my acute mastery of the English language, "That's easy, L.O.V.E." He said, "NO!" "That is NOT how you spell love for your family." Well, he asked a few others and they were just about as puzzled as I was until he finally broke the truth to us. He said, "The way to spell love for your family is T. I. M. E.!"

I never forgot that! Some twenty-three years later, I wish that I had applied it more often, for the past can not be recovered, but in the perfect plan of GOD **"It is of the LORDS mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness"** (Lam. 3:22). Every day is a new day. I suppose it is true that "Today is the first day of the rest of your life." Sure, I have failed yesterday, but by GOD's grace I can succeed today and tomorrow.

Perhaps one of the most exciting things that Paul ever took his pen in hand to write are the words: **"... forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus"** (Philippians 3:13-14). Truly are the mercies of the Lord renewed unto us daily. And by faith, along with me, you too can reach out and claim the promise of His Word **"that all things are possible through Him"** because **"He is able!"**

By the way, another lesson that Pastor Quinlan taught the men that night was **". . . godliness with contentment is great gain!"**

~ end of Chapter 1 ~

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